

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NSC-07 DODE-00 PM-07 SS-20

AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-04

OMB-01 PA-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-03 USIA-15

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APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:RHMILLER

NSC:MPOWER (SUBSTANCE)

JCS:WLAFFERTY

OSD:LMICHAEL

PM/DCA:VBAKER

EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

ACDA/ DLINEBAUGH

C:VLEHOVICH (SUBSTANCE)

S/S: SGAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMNR SHAPE BRUSSELS

USCINCEUR VAIHAIGEN GERMANY

S E C R E T STATE 138119

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: DEFINED GROUND TRAINING AREAS

REF: NATO 3262

1. WE CAN ACCEPT STAFF GROUP DRAFT REPORT ON DEFINED
GROUND TRAINING AREAS SUBJECT TO COMMENTS LISTED IN PARA 4

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BELOW. WE ASSUME COMPLETED REPORT WOULD BE FORWARDED TO SPC.

WHEN THE REPORT REACHES THE SPC YOU SHOULD RECOMMEND DEFERRAL OF SPC ACTION ON THIS ISSUE PENDING DEVELOPMENTS IN VIENNA.

2. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE DIFFERING VIEWS NEED TO BE RESOLVED IN NATO AT THIS TIME. A PROPOSAL THAT THE SOVIETS EXCLUDE FROM THEIR LIST OF DEFINED TRAINING AREAS SOME GROUND TRAINING AREAS IN CURRENT USE COULD UNDERCUT OUR CHANCES OF OBTAINING SOVIET AGREEMENT TO ANY MEANINGFUL STABILIZING MEASURES. BEFORE DECIDING ON SUCH A PROPOSAL WE SHOULD TRY FIRST IN VIENNA TO OBTAIN EASTERN AGREEMENT TO THE STABILIZING MEASURES AS ALREADY PRESENTED. IF THE EAST CAN BE PERSUADED TO ACCEPT THE GENERAL CONCEPTS OF OUR MEASURE LIMITING THE NUMBER, SIZE AND DURATION OF MAJOR EXERCISES, NATO CAN THEN DECIDE WHETHER IT BELIEVES THE SOVIETS MIGHT ALSO AGREE TO EXCLUDE FROM THEIR LIST CERTAIN CURRENTLY USED TRAINING AREAS (E.G., THE 100 SQ KMS FORMULA OR SOME OTHER FORMULA).

3. FYI. WE BELIEVE THE FRG POSITION IS UNREALISTIC BUT DO NOT WISH TO PRESS THIS ISSUE NOW. THEREFORE, YOU SHOULD NOT PURSUE WITH IMS APPROACH SUGGESTED IN PARA 4 REFTEL. WE DOUBT THAT THIS APPROACH COULD BE MADE COMPATIBLE WITH US DEFINITION IN ANY CASE. MOREOVER, IT MAY BE THAT IF THE EAST CAN BE BROUGHT TO ACCEPT STABILIZING MEASURES AT ALL, IT WOULD DO SO ONLY IF THEY APPLY TO ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE NATO FREEZE PROPOSAL MEANS THAT THERE WOULD BE LIMITS ON ALL GROUND FORCES IN THE NGA. IF WE AND OUR ALLIES WOULD IN THAT CASE AGREE TO HAVE STABILIZING MEASURES APPLY TO THEIR FORCES, THEN THERE PRESUMABLY WOULD BE AT LEAST ONE NATO DEFINED GROUND TRAINING AREA OUTSIDE THE FRG, PROVIDED THERE WERE NO 100 SQ KMS MINIMUM. END FYI.

4. SPECIFIC COMMENTS:

A. PARA 2 (B). WE AGREE WITH THIS EXCEPTION. IN ORDER TO MAKE SURE THE SOVIETS DO NOT INCLUDE SUCH LOCAL TRAINING AREAS IN THEIR LIST OF DEFINED GROUND TRAINING AREAS, WE WOULD LIKE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE ADDED TO END OF THE DEFINITION SET FORTH IN PARA 6: "AREAS LOCATED WITHIN 25

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KMS OF A MILITARY GARRISON WHICH PROVIDES THE BULK OF THE TROOPS WHICH USE THE AREA (I.E., LOCAL TRAINING AREAS) COULD NOT BE INCLUDED."

B. PARA 4 (C). YOU SHOULD SUGGEST BUT NOT INSIST ON THE DELETION OF THIS PARA. ONCE THERE WAS AN AGREED LIST OF DEFINED GROUND TRAINING AREAS, THERE WOULD BE NO ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTING TO THE OTHER SIDES REQUIRED OF TROOPS IN OR ENROUTE TO OR FROM THESE AREAS. HENCE

INCLUSION OF A LARGE NUMBER OF SMALL AREAS WOULD NOT INVOLVE A MAJOR ADMINISTRATIVE EFFORT IN REPORTING.

C. PARA 6. LAST SENTENCE OF THIRD PARA SHOULD BE CHANGED TO READ: "THEREFORE, IN THE US VIEW, THE SOVIETS SHOULD NOT BE PRESSED TO EXCLUDE FROM THEIR LIST ANY OF THE GROUND TRAINING AREAS THEY HAVE BEEN USING DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS, REGARDLESS OF SIZE."

D. PARA 7 A. YOU SHOULD NOTE IN THE REPORT THAT EXCLUSION OF TRAINING AREAS SMALLER THAN 100 SQ KMS WOULD REQUIRE THE US TO EXCLUDE TWO OF THE SEVEN AREAS IT WISHES TO LIST. US TROOPS TRAINING IN WILDFLECKEN AND MUENSINGEN AREAS WOULD THEREFORE HAVE TO COUNT AGAINST THE LIMIT OF 10,000 TROOPS OUTSIDE OF GARRISON RATHER THAN THE 50,000 LIMIT ON TROOPS IN DEFINED TRAINING AREAS. THIS WOULD BE A MAJOR DISADVANTAGE FROM THE US POINT OF VIEW.

E. PARA 7, LAST SENTENCE. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT THE SOVIETS COULD NOT LIST AN "UNLIMITED NUMBER OF TRAINING AREAS" SINCE ONLY THOSE USED BY THE SOVIET GROUND FORCES FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS COULD BE INCLUDED. IF OTHERS WILL NOT AGREE TO DELETE OR AMEND THIS SENTENCE,

YOU SHOULD MAKE THIS POINT A FOOTNOTE.

F. PARA 8, FIRST PARA. WHILE THE BEGINNING OF THIS PARA NEED NOT BE CHANGED, YOU SHOULD STATE TO THE WG THAT WE DO NOT AGREE THERE IS A NATO POLITICAL REQUIREMENT THAT SOME TRAINING AREAS FOR USE BY US FORCES MUST BE LOCATED OUTSIDE THE FRG.

G. PARA 8 C. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT LIMITING NATO TO 50 OF ITS CURRENT TRAINING AREAS IN THE AGREED LIST COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT NATO TRAINING SINCE TROOPS IN THE EXCLUDED TRAINING AREAS WOULD BE CONSTRAINED BY THE LIMITS ON THE NUMBER, SIZE AND DURATION OF MAJOR TRAINING

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EXERCISES. THEREFORE YOU SHOULD SUGGEST (BUT NOT INSIST ON) DELETION OF THIS APPROACH.

H. PARA 9. THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THIS PARA SHOULD EITHER BE DELETED OR CHANGED TO NOTE THAT THE APPROACH SET FORTH IN PARA 7 A AND THE APPROACH SET FORTH IN PARA 8 C, IF THE LATTER RESULTED IN FEWER US DEFINED GROUND TRAINING AREAS THAN THOSE THE US HAS REQUESTED, COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT US TRAINING BY REQUIRING SOME TRAINING IN AREAS THE US WANTS LISTED AS A DEFINED GROUND TRAINING AREA (AND HENCE SUBJECT ONLY TO A 50,000 CEILING) TO COUNT AGAINST THE LIMITS ON THE NUMBER, SIZE AND DURATION OF MAJOR TRAINING EXERCISES. BEGINNING OF PARA, IF NOT DELETED, SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT ALL APPROACHES EXCEPT THAT SET FORTH IN PARA 6 WOULD REQUIRE THE SOVIETS TO EXCLUDE FROM THEIR LIST OF DEFINED GROUND TRAINING AREAS, AREAS

CURRENTLY SO USED BY SOVIET FORCES. SISCO

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